

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of indexing and searching a video database having a plurality of video shots uses 3-D camera motion parameters. For each video shot the 3-D camera motion parameters are estimated, rates of tracking, booming, dollying, panning, tilting, rolling and zooming are
5 computed, and the results are indexed in a metadata index file in the video database according to the types of camera. The video database is searched by selecting one of the types of camera motion and submitting a query. The query is processed to identify those video shots in the video database
10 that satisfy the query in order of priority. The highest priority video shots are displayed for the user.